

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims **1, 3-4, 6-16, 22, 31-34, 36-37, 50-53, 55-56, 71-74, 76-77, 92-95, 97-98, 113-115, and 136-223** are pending in this application. According to the March 24, 2008 Office Action, claims **1, 3-4, 6-16, 22, 31-34, 36-37, 50-53, 55-56, 71-74, 76-77, 92-95, 97-98, 113-115, and 136-223** are rejected.

We have canceled independent claim **209** and dependent claims **210-223**. We will pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in one or more continuing applications.

Accordingly, the following claims are under consideration:

- Independent claims **1, 13, 34, 53, 74, and 95**.
- Dependent claims **3-4, 6-12, 14-16, 22, 31-33, 36-37, 50-52, 55-56, 71-73, 76-77, 92-94, 97-98, 113-115, and 136-208**.

I. ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

While we do not agree with the Examiner's asserted requirement for election/restriction at page 3 of the Office Action, to expedite prosecution of this application we hereby elect the claims indicated by the Examiner as being Group I, or in other words, claims **1, 3-4, 6-16, 22, 31-34, 36-37, 50-53, 55-56, 71-74, 76-77, 92-95, 97-98, 113-115, and 136-208**. We have canceled the claims indicated by the Examiner as being Group II, or in other words, claims **209-223**. We will pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in one or more divisional applications.

II. NON-RESPONSIVE REPLY

At page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts in part:

The reply filed on 4 December 2007 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

There is no discussion of claims 209-223 and how they differ from the Prior Art.

Because claims **209-223** have been canceled, the Examiner's objection is now moot.

III. CONCLUSION

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims **1, 3-4, 6-16, 22, 31-34, 36-37, 50-53, 55-56, 71-74, 76-77, 92-95, 97-98, 113-115, and 136-208** are requested. We earnestly believe that this application is now in condition to be passed to issue, and such action is also respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner deems it would in any way facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone our undersigned representative at 212-294-7733.

Respectfully submitted,

/Glen R. Farbanish/

April 18, 2008

Date

Glen R. Farbanish
Reg. No. 50,561